REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present remarks are being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-17 are pending. Claims 1 and 14, which are independent, are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. Support for this amendment can be found throughout the Specification as originally filed and specifically on page 9. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-6 and 14-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,878,033 to Mouly (hereinafter, merely "Mouly") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,067,566 to Moline (hereinafter, merely "Moline").

Claims 7-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Mouly in view of Moline and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,157,949 to Cheng, et al. (hereinafter, merely "Cheng").

Claims 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Mouly in view of Moline and Cheng and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,864,854 to Boyle (hereinafter, merely "Boyle").

Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Mouly in view of Moline and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,345,313 to Lindholm (hereinafter, merely "Lindholm").

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

> "A method for determining access times of a plurality of segments of a plurality of broadcast objects...
>
> said method characterized in that each segment of a broadcast object of a current broadcast cycle includes a header defining a repetition distance which is the distance between a completed transmission of the current segment of the broadcast object and the next transmission of a next segment of the broadcast object, and therefore a next reception point in time of said next segment of said broadcast object is calculated from a current time value and said repetition distance;
>
> **wherein said repetition distance is calculated using an iterative loop over all of said plurality of segments of the broadcast cycle in transmission order**." (Emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, Mouly relates to transmitting messages which are broadcast successively and at regular intervals to mobile stations on a particular radio channel of the TDMA network. They comprise service messages and schedule messages respectively associated with successive schedule periods, each schedule message including information about the distribution of the service messages which will be broadcast during the associated schedule period. For each service message which will be broadcast during a schedule period, the associated schedule message includes a cue indicating whether this service message has been broadcast during the preceding schedule period.

As understood by Applicants, Moline relates to distributing MIDI tracks across a network using non-real-time protocols such as TCP/IP. Included are techniques for producing MIDI tracks from MIDI streams as the MIDI streams are themselves produced and distributing the MIDI tracks across the network, techniques for dealing with the varying delays involved in distributing the tracks using non-real-time protocols, and techniques for saving the controller state of a MIDI track so that a user may begin playing the track at any point during its distribution across the network.

Applicants submit that Mouly and Moline, taken either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the above identified features of claim 1. Specifically, there is no teaching or suggestion of a method for determining access times of a plurality of segments of a plurality of broadcast objects wherein each segment of a broadcast object of a current broadcast cycle includes a header defining a repetition distance which is the distance between a completed transmission of the current segment of the broadcast object and the next transmission of a next segment of the broadcast object, and therefore a next reception point in time of said next segment of said broadcast object is calculated from a current time value and said repetition distance and wherein said repetition distance is calculated using an iterative loop over all of said plurality of segments of the broadcast cycle in transmission order, as recited in independent claim 1.

Further, Cheng, Boyle and Lindholm fail to cure the deficiencies of Mouly and Moline.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to, or somewhat similar to, those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claim 14 is also believed to be patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent on an independent claim discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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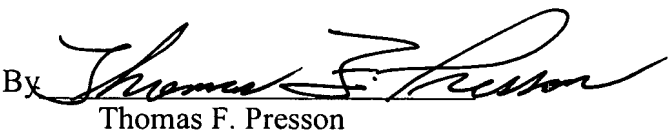
By 
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